

TOWN OF WELLESLEY

POLICE DEPARTMENT

WELLESLEY, MA 02482 Telephone 781-235-1212 JACK PILECKI Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wellesley's Traffic Box Artwork Goes Virtual

September 13, 2021 (Wellesley, MA) – Take a tour of Wellesley's painted traffic signal boxes without getting in your car! The Town of Wellesley has launched a new, easily accessible <u>virtual map</u> that lets users view, read about, and locate the painted boxes of the Traffic Box Art program. This interactive, online resource includes photos, box locations, and notes from the artists and was developed by the Town's innovative IT department and the creative work of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) manager Michael Thompson.

Users can access the map from the <u>Public Art Projects webpage</u> on the Town of Wellesley website or by scanning this QR code (coming soon), which will be attached to the base of each painted box.



The Wellesley Traffic Box Art program is a collaboration between Wellesley Police Chief Jack Pilecki, Susan Morris, and a team of local art enthusiasts on the Wellesley Public Art Committee (PAC). Unveiled in early 2020, the project has inspired work by eleven artists so far, including Wellesley High School students, professional painters, and a muralist who teaches in the Art Department at Wellesley College.

Traffic Box Art Challenge

Explore the painted boxes up close and in-person by taking part in the <u>Traffic Box Art Challenge!</u> The challenge is to visit and document your visit to ten of the eleven boxes. Beginning on **Thursday, September 16 through Friday, October 1**, take selfies in front of the various boxes, combine your pictures into a single post on your Instagram page, and use the tag #wellesleytrafficboxchallenge so our judges can find your pictures.

All participants will be entered into a drawing for a \$250 Visa gift card. Second place will receive Wellesley Police Department swag.

More Artists Wanted

Love the boxes and want to design and paint one of your own? The Public Art Committee (PAC) and Police Department are recruiting more artists for the Fall 2021 round of traffic signal boxes. Detailed information about design requirements, potential locations, and timelines, along with an application for interested artists is available here. Selected artists receive a \$1,000 stipend per location to use for time, transportation, and supplies. Applications are due by **Tuesday**, **September 21**, **2021**.

For information or questions, contact Wellesley Police Chief Jack Pilecki at <u>ipilecki@wellesleyma.gov</u> or call 781-235-0062.